### **Draft Minutes**

## Vermont State Hospital Futures Advisory Group

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. – February 1, 2006 Stanley Hall State Office Complex Waterbury, Vermont

The meeting was called to order at approximately 11:30 a.m. by Deputy Commissioner Paul Blake. The names of most of the approximately 50 people present appear at the end of these minutes, although not all members of the public signed in. Public comment was taken towards the end of the meeting. No votes were taken at the meeting.

Paul Blake gave an overview of the Futures progress with regard to developing sub-acute programs.

Eric Grims of Northeast Kingdom Human Services (NKHS) gave an overview of his agency's effort to develop such a program, beginning with a commitment made at a retreat for designated agency directors, continuing through the investigation of possible sites in Concord and Greensboro, and including a series of conversations to alert Greensboro area officials to NKHS's plans. Grims handed out a document titled "The Bayley-Hazen Rehabilitation and Recovery Center," which included slight revisions from the version handed out at the previous meeting, and which is posted on the Mental Health Update webpage.

Cathy Rousse, NKHS's mental health director, reported on program design, on potential clients to be served, and on the results of her interviews with current Vermont State Hospital patients about their hopes and treatment preferences.

There was a discussion by Futures Group members, followed by public comment. Much of the public comment was in opposition to the proposal. The primary objections were focused on losing a tourist-related commercial property in the center of a small village with a tourism economy, and on the lack of social infrastructure to support patients in recovery and visiting family members.

At the end of the meeting, there was additional discussion by the Group members and a variety of opinions were heard that another meeting should be called in the near future to discuss residential recovery (subacute) programs more thoroughly.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1 p.m.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Larry Thompson VSH JoEllen Swaine VSH Jeff Rothenberg CMC

Scott Thompson Advocate (for Jackie Lehman)

Jack McCullough MHLP
Michael Sabourin Advocate
Conor Casey VSEA

David Fassler VT Psychiatric Association

Ed Paquin VP&A

Paul Dupre VT Council of DMH Svc

Anne Donahue House Human Services Committee, Counter Point

Charlie Biss VDH
Ken Libertoff VAMH
Anne Jerman VSH
Larry Lewack NAMI-VT

Nick Emlen VT Council of DMH Svc

Gladys Mooney Adult State Standing Committee

Linda Corey VPS/ by phone

#### **GUESTS**

Joseph Gresser The Chronicle

Cathy Rousse **NKHS** Eric Grims NKHS David Perham Greensboro Judy Rosenstreich volunteer Peter Gebbie Greensboro Nancy Lammert Greensboro Ed Donlon Greensboro Claudia York Greensboro Cynthia L. Bartlett Greensboro Susan Goodby Craftsbury Maureen Mayo VCIL

Julie Tessler VT Council of DMH Svc

Michael Hartman WCMH Margaret Lipscomb Greensboro Betsy LeRanger-Donlon Greensboro Andy Dales Greensboro Judy Dales Greensboro Robert Goodby Craftsbury Nario Styra Greensboro Anne Harrison Greensboro Valdine Hall Greensboro

Alla Bonney-Smith Greensboro
Nathaniel Smith Greensboro
Ted Donlon Greensboro
Kristin Carlson WCAX
Andy Goodrich WCAX
Linda Cohen BISHCA

# **STAFF**

John Howland Jr. VDH
Paul Blake VDH
Beth Tanzman VDH
Heidi Tringe AHS